

Appl. No.: 10/000,117
Filed: October 31, 2001
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material comprising two metal plates which are affixed to and separated by a fibrous core, the core comprising a three-dimensional porous network comprising metal fibres, wherein substantially all of the fibres are inclined at an acute angle (θ) to the plates.
2. (Original) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the metal fibres are bonded together at crossover points within the network.
3. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the metal plates and the metal fibres comprise metals selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, steel, aluminium and titanium.
4. (Original) A sandwich material according to claim 3, wherein the metal plates and the metal fibres comprise stainless steel or aluminum
5. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the plates are affixed to the fibrous core by means of a braze.
6. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the plates are affixed to the fibrous core by means of an adhesive.
7. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the fibres in the core are randomly oriented.
8. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein θ is less than 60° .

RTA01/2149665v1

Appl. No.: 10/000,117
Filed: October 31, 2001
Page 3

9. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the average diameter of the fibres is less than 500 μm .
10. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the total thickness of the material is 0.5mm - 1 cm.
11. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the fibres occupy 5-50 volume % of the core.
12. (Original) A sandwich material according to claim 11, wherein the fibres occupy 5-10 volume % of the core.
13. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the core additionally comprises non-metallic fibres.
14. (Previously Presented) A sandwich material according to claim 1, wherein the fibrous core additionally comprises a polymer matrix.
15. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a sandwich material as defined in claim 1, comprising the step of affixing two metal plates to either side of a fibrous core.
16. (Previously Presented) A welded material comprising a sandwich material as defined in claim 1 welded to a substrate.
17. (Previously Presented) A vehicle part comprising a sandwich material as defined in claim 1.

RTA01/2149665v1

Appl. No.: 10/000,117
Filed: October 31, 2001
Page 4

18. (Previously Presented) A vehicle part according to claim 17, which is selected from the group consisting of spoilers, panels and roofs.

19. (Previously Presented) A vehicle comprising a vehicle part as defined in claim 17.

RTA01/2149665v1